

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S/S - MR. PICKERING

10/13/73

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

EUR:DEP. ASST. SEC. STABLER

S:MR. EAGLEBERGER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON FLASH

S E C R E T STATE 203571

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (OMISSION LINE 1, PARA 1)

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MARR

SUBJ: LAJES FLIGHTS

1. CHARGE SHOULD DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE
PRESIDENT FOR PRIME MINISTER CAETANO:

2. DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER:

THIS IS A DIFFICULT MOMENT FOR WORLD PEACE AND PORTUGUESE/
U.S. RELATIONS.

WHAT WE ARE DOING IS DESIGNED TO SUPPORT THE END OF
HOSTILITY AND BRING A DURABLE PEACE TO THE MIDDLE EAST,
BUT WE NEED YOUR COOPERATION TO DO THIS.

OUR CHARGE HAS EXPLAINED WHAT WE REQUIRE.

WE CANNOT AT THIS TIME BARGAIN WITH YOU ABOUT HYPOTHETICAL
SECRET

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RESULTS WHICH MAY STEM FROM YOUR COOPERATION. WE ARE NOT
ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH THE SPECIFIC WEAPONS REQUESTED BY
YOUR FOREIGN MINISTER. IF YOU ARE THREATENED BY TERRORISM
OR AN OIL BOYCOTT AS A RESULT OF YOUR HELP FOR WORLD PEACE,

WE WOULD BE WILLING TO CONSULT WITH YOU ON WHAT STEPS WE
CAN JOINTLY TAKE.

I WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL FOR YOUR OWN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION
OF MY THOUGHTS AND OUR COMMON PROBLEM. YOU KNOW THAT TIME
IS IMPORTANT TO US BOTH.

I MUST TELL YOU IN ALL FRANKNESS MR. PRIME MINISTER
THAT YOUR FAILURE TO HELP AT THIS CRITICAL TIME WILL FORCE
US TO ADOPT MEASURES WHICH CANNOT BUT HURT OUR RELATIONSHIP.
IF WE HAVE LOOK TO ALTERNATIVE ROUTES, THIS WILL BE A
FACTOR WHICH WOULD BE RECALLED SHOULD THE EVENTUALITIES
TO WHICH YOUR FOREIGN MINISTER REFERS ACTUALLY TAKE PLACE.

I MAKE THIS REQUEST TO YOU PERSONALLY MR. PRIME MINISTER.
WITH ALL MY BEST WISHES, SINCERELY, RICHARD NIXON.

3. CHARGE SHOULD POINT OUT THAT IF THE ATTITUDE OF THE
PORTUGUESE BECOMES KNOWN TO OUR CONGRESS IT WILL DESTROY
WHAT SUPPORT THEY NOW HAVE LEFT IN THAT BODY. HE SHOULD
FURTHER INDICATE THAT THIS IS A STRICTLY PRIVATE
COMMUNICATION FROM THE PRESIDENT AND THAT WE EXPECT ITS
CONFIDENTIALITY TO BE MAINTAINED.

4. THIS MESSAGE ALSO BEING BRIEFED TO PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR
THEMIDO IN WASHINGTON. KISSINGER

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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